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New Mexico Labor Market Review

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EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT
Imogene Lindsay, Secretary
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HIGHLIGHTS

According to preliminary estimates, statewide unemployment remained above 60,000 in February, resulting in an unemployment rate of 9.2 percent. Approximately 2,300 more people were unemployed this year than one year ago. New Mexico's unemployment rate of 9.2 percent compares with the national average rate (not seasonally adjusted) of 7.8 percent in February.

Several counties in the southeastern quadrant of New Mexico saw significant increases in unemployment in February, reflecting the initial effects of falling oil prices and layoffs in manufacturing and potash mining. Lea County's jobless rate jumped from 6.1 to 7.6 percent over the month as numerous oil field companies in the Hobbs area reduced payrolls. In the Carlsbad area, layoffs in oil and gas extraction, potash mining, and in chemical manufacturing caused Eddy County's unemployment rate to climb from 14.3 to 15.9 percent. The jobless rate in Chaves County jumped from 9.8 to 10.8 percent, as layoffs occurred in oil & gas and at a large transportation equipment manufacturer.

In somewhat of a contrast, only a moderate increase in unemployment was recorded during the month in San Juan County, an area with 25 percent of the state's oil & gas jobs. Unfortunately, more recent reports of Unemployment Insurance claims activity from the Farmington area indicate sizeable layoffs occurred in the petroleum industry in March, and San Juan County unemployment estimates are expected to be up sharply next month.

The latest monthly payroll survey of New Mexico employers backs up the jobless figures from the state's oil & gas areas: employment by oil & gas firms fell by 1,300 jobs in February. Construction also recorded an unusual employment decrease in February; however, this was probably due to the heavy snowfall which hampered outside activity during the reference week for the estimates (week of the 12th of each month).

Over the last year, New Mexico's economy generated 11,800 nonagricultural jobs for an annual growth rate of 2.3 percent. This is the weakest performance of any twelve month period since the 1982-83 recession. Layoffs in mining, a sluggish construction industry, and funding cutbacks in government all contributed to the slowdown. Fortunately, the state's large trade and services industries continued to post steady growth during the period.

FEBRUARY SUMMARY

	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Feb. 1986	Jan. 1986	Feb. 1985	Jan. 1986	Feb. 1985
Civilian Labor Force	654,900	650,100	634,200	+4,800	+20,700
Employment	594,800	589,900	576,400	+4,900	+18,400
Unemployment	60,100	60,200	57,800	- 100	+2,300
Rate	9.2%	9.3%	9.1%		

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

NEW MEXICO	PRELIM FEB 1986	REVISED JAN 1986	REVISED FEB 1985	DEC CHANGE FROM JAN 1986	DEC CHANGE FROM FEB 1985
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	519,200	518,900	507,500	300	11,700
MINING	18,200	19,600	21,600	-1,400	-3,400
Metal Mining	2,800	2,900	3,600	-100	-800
Bituminous Coal, Quarrying etc	3,200	3,200	4,400	0	-1,200
Oil & Gas Extraction	12,200	13,500	13,600	-1,300	-1,400
CONSTRUCTION	33,400	34,100	34,200	-700	-800
MANUFACTURING	36,900	36,800	36,400	100	500
DURABLE GOODS	24,000	24,000	23,700	0	300
Lumber & Wood Products	2,500	2,500	2,400	0	100
Machinery(except electric)	2,700	2,700	2,900	0	-200
Elec & Electronic Equip	6,500	6,500	6,800	0	-300
Transportation Equipment	4,000	4,100	3,700	-100	300
Other Durable Goods	8,300	8,200	7,900	100	400
NONDURABLE GOODS	12,900	12,800	12,700	100	200
Food & Kindred Products	4,100	4,100	3,900	0	200
Textile & Apparel	2,400	2,300	2,400	100	0
Other Nondurable Goods	6,400	6,400	6,400	0	0
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	29,100	29,000	30,200	100	-1,100
TRANSPORTATION	12,700	12,600	12,700	100	0
Railroad Transportation	2,300	2,200	2,300	100	0
Trucking & Warehousing	5,900	5,900	6,000	0	-100
Other Transportation	4,500	4,500	4,400	0	100
COMMUNICATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	16,400	16,400	17,500	0	-1,100
Communication	7,100	7,000	7,700	100	-600
Elec, Gas, & Sanitary Services	9,300	9,400	9,800	-100	-500
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	124,600	125,600	116,700	-1,000	7,900
WHOLESALE TRADE	22,900	22,900	22,600	0	300
Durable Goods	13,500	13,500	13,400	0	100
Nondurable Goods	9,400	9,400	9,200	0	200
RETAIL TRADE	101,700	102,700	94,100	-1,000	7,600
Bldg Material & Mobile Homes	4,600	4,500	4,300	100	300
General Merchandise Stores	11,800	12,500	9,800	-700	2,000
Food Stores	15,200	15,400	14,000	-200	1,200
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	12,900	13,000	12,600	-100	300
Apparel & Accessories	5,800	6,200	5,100	-400	700
Furniture & Furnishing	4,300	4,400	4,300	-100	0
Eating & Drinking Places	35,400	34,700	33,300	700	2,100
Miscellaneous Retail	11,700	12,000	10,700	-300	1,000
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	25,700	25,800	25,100	-100	600
Banking	8,100	8,100	8,300	0	-200
Insurance Carriers	3,300	3,300	3,300	0	0
Insur Agents, Brokers & Service	2,700	2,800	2,600	-100	100
Real Estate	6,300	6,300	5,800	0	500
Other Fin, Ins & Real Estate	5,300	5,300	5,100	0	200
SERVICES	114,900	114,200	108,500	700	6,400
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	11,400	11,500	10,000	-100	1,400
Personal Services	6,000	6,000	6,100	0	-100
Business Services	26,800	26,900	25,400	-100	1,400
Health Services	27,400	27,400	26,200	0	1,200
Legal Services	3,800	3,800	3,700	0	100
Educational Services	4,000	3,800	4,000	200	0
Social Services	7,200	7,100	6,900	100	300
Membership Organizations	5,900	5,800	5,800	100	100
Other Services	22,400	21,900	20,400	500	2,000
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	136,400	133,800	134,800	2,600	1,600
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	28,800	28,900	29,800	-100	-1,000
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	107,600	104,900	105,000	2,700	2,600
State Government 2/	49,400	47,300	47,600	2,100	1,800
Local Government	58,200	57,600	57,400	600	800

1/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.
2/ Includes other State's employees working in New Mexico.

ALBUQUERQUE AREA (BERNALILLO COUNTY)

HIGHLIGHTS

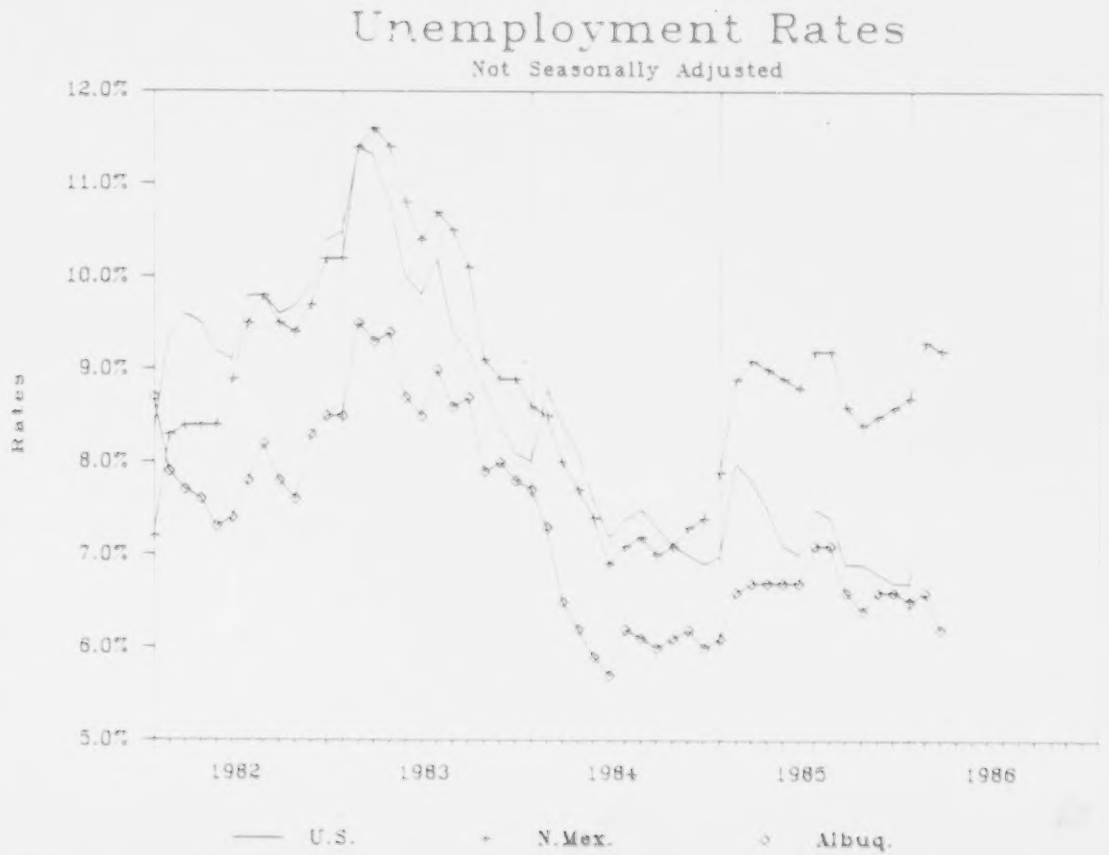
The Albuquerque area unemployment rate fell to 6.2 percent in February, from its January level of 6.6 percent. A rise of 3,300 in total employment in combination with a decline of 700 in the number of unemployed produced the lower February rate.

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment was 223,600 in February, an increase of 1,200 jobs from January. The over-the-month gain was led by additions to payrolls in the services and government sectors. Within the services divisions, the start of the spring horse racing season and hiring by income tax preparation firms boosted employment; while the additional government jobs resulted primarily from the return to work of part-time university employees who do not work during the semester break. Those job increases were partially offset by smaller job losses in the construction and retail trade industries. All three major construction industry groups showed work force reductions, while apparel and general merchandise stores continued to adjust payrolls after the recent holiday buying season.

Over the past year, nonagricultural wage and salary job gains totaled 8,800. Seventy percent of the over-the-year advance occurred in just two industry divisions - trade and services. Within those two divisions, several major groups recorded substantial work force growth, principally miscellaneous retail trade stores, general merchandise stores, eating and drinking places, business services, health services and lodging places.

FEBRUARY SUMMARY

	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Feb. 1986	Jan. 1986	Feb. 1985	Jan. 1986	Feb. 1985
Civilian Labor Force	248,700	246,200	238,100	+2,500	+10,600
Employment	233,200	230,000	222,000	+3,200	+11,200
Unemployment	15,500	16,200	16,100	- 700	- 600
Rate	6.2%	6.6%	6.8%		



ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

ALBUQUERQUE MSA (BERNALILLO COUNTY)	PRELIM FEB 1986	REVISED JAN 1986	REVISED FEB 1985	FEB CHANGE FROM JAN 1986	FEB CHANGE FROM FEB 1985
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	223,600	222,400	214,800	1,200	8,800
MINING	300	300	200	0	100
CONSTRUCTION	17,700	17,900	16,400	-200	1,300
MANUFACTURING	19,300	19,200	19,000	100	300
Durable Goods	13,700	13,700	13,600	0	100
Nondurable Goods	5,600	5,500	5,400	100	200
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	12,200	12,200	12,100	0	100
Transportation	5,800	5,700	5,600	100	200
Communication	3,900	4,000	4,000	-100	-100
Elec, Gas, & Sanitary Services	2,500	2,500	2,500	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	56,900	57,300	53,800	-400	3,100
WHOLESALE TRADE	14,100	14,100	14,000	0	100
Durable Goods	9,400	9,400	9,300	0	100
Nondurable Goods	4,700	4,700	4,700	0	0
RETAIL TRADE	42,800	43,200	39,800	-400	3,000
General Merchandise Stores	4,700	4,900	4,100	-200	600
Food Stores	4,900	4,900	4,500	0	400
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	4,700	4,800	4,500	-100	200
Eating & Drinking Places	15,700	15,400	15,100	300	600
Other Retail Trade	12,800	13,200	11,600	-400	1,200
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	13,500	13,500	12,900	0	600
Banking	3,200	3,200	3,200	0	0
Ins Carriers, Agents & Brokers	3,800	3,800	3,600	0	200
Other Fin, Ins & Real Estate	6,500	6,500	6,100	0	400
SERVICES	58,700	57,900	55,600	800	3,100
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	3,500	3,400	2,900	100	600
Personal Services	3,400	3,200	3,300	200	100
Business Services	18,800	18,800	18,100	0	700
Health Services	13,200	13,200	12,600	0	600
Social Services	2,800	2,700	2,800	100	0
Membership Organizations	1,700	1,700	1,800	0	-100
Other Services	15,300	14,900	14,100	400	1,200
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	45,000	44,100	44,800	900	200
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	12,800	12,600	12,700	200	100
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	32,200	31,500	32,100	700	100
State Government	13,300	12,800	13,200	500	100
Local Government	18,900	18,700	18,900	200	0

1/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)

(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

LAS CRUCES MSA (DONA ANA COUNTY) 1/	PRELIM FEB 1986	REVISED JAN 1986	REVISED FEB 1985	FEB CHANGE FROM JAN 1986	FEB CHANGE FROM FEB 1985
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 2/	38,050	38,000	36,050	50	2,000
MINING 3/	0	0	0	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	2,500	2,500	2,400	0	100
MANUFACTURING	2,900	2,900	3,150	0	-250
Durable Goods	1,200	1,200	1,150	0	50
Nondurable Goods	1,700	1,700	2,000	0	-300
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	1,400	1,350	1,400	50	0
Transportation	550	550	600	0	-50
Comm, Elec, Gas & Sanitary Svs	850	800	800	50	50
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	7,900	8,000	7,250	-100	650
WHOLESALE TRADE	800	850	800	-50	0
RETAIL TRADE	7,100	7,150	6,450	-50	650
General Merchandise Stores	900	950	700	-50	200
Food Stores	1,000	1,000	950	0	50
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	800	800	850	0	-50
Eating & Drinking Places	3,000	3,000	2,600	0	400
Other Retail Trade	1,400	1,400	1,350	0	50
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	1,550	1,550	1,450	0	100
SERVICES	5,500	5,500	5,000	0	500
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	600	600	550	0	50
Business Services	900	900	800	0	100
Health Services	1,350	1,350	1,150	0	200
Social Services	350	350	300	0	50
Other Services	2,300	2,300	2,200	0	100
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	16,300	16,200	15,800	100	900
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	4,600	4,700	4,600	-100	0
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	11,700	11,500	10,800	200	900
State Government	6,500	6,400	5,900	100	600
Local Government	5,200	5,100	4,900	100	300

SANTA FE MSA (SANTA FE & LOS ALAMOS COUNTIES) 1/	PRELIM FEB 1986	REVISED JAN 1986	REVISED FEB 1985	FEB CHANGE FROM JAN 1986	FEB CHANGE FROM FEB 1985
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 2/	51,250	51,250	48,150	0	3,100
MINING	150	150	150	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	3,200	3,200	3,100	0	100
MANUFACTURING	1,650	1,650	1,450	0	200
Durable Goods	950	950	850	0	100
Nondurable Goods	700	700	600	0	100
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	1,100	1,100	1,150	0	-50
Transportation	350	350	350	0	0
Comm, Elec, Gas & Sanitary Svs	750	750	800	0	-50
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	9,700	9,700	8,250	0	1,450
WHOLESALE TRADE	700	700	650	0	50
RETAIL TRADE	9,000	9,000	7,600	0	1,400
General Merchandise Stores	1,050	1,050	600	0	450
Food Stores	1,150	1,150	1,250	0	-100
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	900	900	800	0	100
Eating & Drinking Places	3,300	3,300	2,800	0	500
Other Retail Trade	2,600	2,600	2,150	0	450
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	2,000	2,000	1,900	0	100
SERVICES	12,050	12,050	12,050	0	0
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	1,400	1,400	1,400	0	0
Business Services	3,000	3,000	2,800	0	200
Health Services	2,600	2,600	2,700	0	-100
Social Services	550	550	550	0	0
Other Services	4,500	4,500	4,600	0	-100
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	21,400	21,400	20,100	0	1,300
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	1,500	1,500	1,600	0	-100
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	19,900	19,900	18,500	0	1,400
State Government 4/	16,200	16,200	14,800	0	1,400
Local Government	3,700	3,700	3,700	0	0

1/ In accordance with the CES Manual, those published cells with less than 2,000 employees are rounded to nearest 50. Those published cells with more than 2,000 employees are rounded to 100.

2/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.

3/ The employment for the Las Cruces MSA is rounded to fifty. Because employment in this industry is below 25 it appears as zero.

4/ Includes other State's employees working in New Mexico.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS

Hours and Earnings of Production, Construction and Nonsupervisory Employees
(Prepared in cooperation with the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
NEW MEXICO	FEB 1986	JAN 1986	FEB 1985	FEB 1986	JAN 1986	FEB 1985	FEB 1986	JAN 1986	FEB 1985
MINING	$511.34	$524.12	$488.42	42.4	42.2	40.6	12.06	12.42	12.03
CONSTRUCTION	$395.60	$395.68	$381.98	33.3	37.9	35.9	11.88	10.44	10.64
MANUFACTURING	$322.10	$336.57	$324.26	38.3	39.0	39.4	8.41	8.63	8.23
Durable Goods	$329.26	$340.65	$338.75	38.6	39.2	39.9	8.53	8.69	8.49
Nondurable Goods	$306.50	$326.10	$293.76	37.7	38.5	38.4	8.13	8.47	7.65
COMMUNICATION & UTILITIES	$425.66	$476.79	$454.10	40.5	42.8	42.4	10.51	11.14	10.71
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	$228.04	$222.75	$217.60	32.3	33.0	32.0	7.06	6.75	6.80
Wholesale Trade	$419.43	$374.26	$389.75	41.0	41.4	41.2	10.23	9.04	9.46
Retail Trade	$189.10	$192.18	$180.00	30.5	31.3	30.0	6.20	6.14	6.00
BANKING	$234.26	$217.50	$208.57	40.6	37.5	38.2	5.77	5.80	5.46
ALBUQUERQUE MSA									
MANUFACTURING	U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics has been forced to cancel funds for this series due to reductions caused by the Gramm - Rudmen - Hollings Balanced Budget Act.								
Durable Goods									
Nondurable Goods									

NOTE: Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded. The average earnings are "gross" reflecting not only changes in basic hourly and incentive wage rates but also such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differentials. The work week information relates to the average hours for which pay was received, and is different from standard or scheduled hours due to absenteeism, labor turnover, part time work, overtime work etc.

Third Quarter 1985 Covered Employment and Wages Publication is now Available

This is a quarterly publication which provides employment and wage information for industries covered under the State Unemployment Insurance Law (coverage extends to approximately 97 percent of all nonagricultural workers). Included in the publication are the number of employers, number of workers, total wages paid, and average weekly earnings by two digit SIC industry for New Mexico and each of its counties. Copies of Covered Employment and Wages can be obtained at no charge by writing to ER & A Bureau 6097, Employment Security Department, P.O. Box 1928, Albuquerque, N.M. 87103 or by calling (505) 841-8699. Please indicate if you want to be included on our mailing list for future publications.

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U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
February 1986

CPI-U - 327.5
CPI-W - 323.2

(Base Year 1967 = 100)

CPI-U - All Urban Consumers
CPI-W - Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers

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AREA ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

ALBUQUERQUE AREA: Harte-Hanks Direct Marketing Inc. of Albuquerque discontinued the commercial printing portion of its business in March, resulting in the layoff of approximately 25 of the firm's 125 Albuquerque staff. Construction began in March on the first phase of the $1.6 million, 24,323-square-foot Presidio office building, located at the corner of Lomas Blvd. and Hotel Circle. Work on the $13 million, 312-room Pyramid Plaza Holiday Inn and Convention Center, located in the Journal Center, is progressing; and the facility is scheduled for completion late this year. Capital Glass and Aluminum Corp., a tempered glass manufacturer, has opened a new facility in Albuquerque employing about 30 people. Construction is expected to be completed by August 1 on the $3.4 million, 2-story Seagull Office Plaza. The 56,000-square-foot building is located at the Osuna I-25 interchange area. City of Albuquerque officials have announced a three-month hiring freeze due to recent state and federal funding cutbacks and a recent reorganization of city departments.

ALAMOGORDO/RUIDOSO AREA: A new Wal-Mart discount store opened in Ruidoso in early March with approximately 90 workers. Scott Air Inc. is gearing up for production of a new line of electric motors and has also entered the truck air conditioning market. Scott Air currently employs a work force of 160, and company officials predict that the firm will employ almost 500 workers within five years.

CARLSBAD/ARTESIA AREA: The Carlsbad area received some good news when AMAX reopened its area potash mine in late March with a workforce of approximately 200. AMAX had furloughed 225 workers last October, and another 50 AMAX workers were laid off in mid-February. Also, Lundberg Industries reopened its potash mine in early March with a work force of 325. Lundberg officials said another 100 workers could be hired within a few weeks of reopening. Most of the construction work on the Waste Isolation Pilot Project near Carlsbad will be completed by the end of this year according to officials of Westinghouse Corp., the project manager for the facility. Through 1987 and much of 1988, operating equipment will be installed and personnel will be trained at WIPP. The first shipments of nuclear waste is not scheduled to arrive until October 1988. The current workforce at WIPP is approximately 700. A new manufacturing operation is scheduled to move into the Artesia Industrial Park in the near future. Striplin Pre-Fab Co. will manufacture pre-built homes at its new plant, which will have a staff of approximately 30. Wal-Mart hired about 120 workers for the opening of its new Carlsbad store in late February.

CLOVIS/PORTALES AREA: Frozfruit Inc. has started limited production at its new frozen fruit bar manufacturing plant located in the former Swift meat packing facility in Clovis. At full production, the company will have about 100 permanent workers, and plans call for employment of another 200 workers in the peak production season of April through August each year. Cummins Gas Engines has purchased the former Levi Strauss plant for expansion of its production facilities. Cummins currently employs 30 workers. Cornell Construction of Clovis was awarded the contract for construction of the $2.5 million Roosevelt County jail in Portales. Vantage Construction of Roswell was awarded a $1.5 million contract for a computer facility at Eastern New Mexico University's Clovis campus.

GRANTS AREA: The Grants area received welcome news recently when Chevron Inc. announced plans to continue mining uranium ore at its Mount Taylor Mine near Grants. Chevron has operated the mine on a test basis for the last year to assess the feasibility of mining the extensive high grade uranium reserves in the area. Chevron employs about 160 workers at the mine. Bagdad Plastics Company has almost completed the move of its plumbing products manufacturing plant from Phoenix

to Grants, and the firm expects to begin production within a few weeks. Bagdad has hired about 25 workers, and officials indicate another 20 to 25 workers will be hired before production begins.

FARMINGTON AREA: Construction of the $60 million Conoco-Tenneco gas processing plant is moving along at a steady pace with completion expected on October 1. Pan West of Houston, TX is the general contractor on the project. When in operation, the plant will employ about 25 workers. Ground was broken in late February on the new 18,000-square-foot office building for Amoco Production Company. The building will house about 75 company employees. Amoco has announced it will reduce its exploration budget in the San Juan Basin from $80 million in 1985 (about 150 wells) to between $40 and $50 million in 1986 (30 to 40 wells).

HOBBS/LOVINGTON AREA: According to recent reports, the Permian Basin is now averaging 100 fewer rigs in operation than during comparable periods in 1984. The recent drop in oil prices has also resulted in layoffs by many area oil service companies. In Hobbs, Providence Construction and La Fonda Construction, Inc. have commenced work on a new $7.8 million development which will include a shopping center and approximately 100 homes.

LAS CRUCES AREA: A new firm, Flores de New Mexico, is planning to locate a large cut-flower growing operation on New Mexico State University land near Las Cruces. The firm intends to construct greenhouses covering approximately 20 acres and initially hire between 20 and 30 workers. Construction on the facilities should begin by May.

RATON/CLAYTON AREA: Amoco Production Company officials have announced plans to reduce operating expenses at the company's Bravo Dome CO_2 project due to declining oil prices. Amoco is expected to complete a 15 well tie-in to its Rosebud compressor station by late April; but after that, any further development on the Bravo Dome project will probably be delayed, according to Amoco officials. La Mesa Park will begin its 1986 horse racing season on April 26. The park normally hires about 200 people for the racing season.

ROSWELL AREA: Navajo Refining Co. hired approximately 300 temporary workers for two weeks in March for a major maintenance project at its Roswell fuel refinery. McDonnell-Douglas Aircraft Co. brought about 40 engineers, pilots, and aircraft personnel to the Roswell Municipal Airport for two weeks in March for testing of a newly designed engine component for commercial airliners produced by the firm.

SANTA FE AREA: Ground has been broken on an $8.3 million, 150-apartment retirement center on Alta Vista Street in Santa Fe. The Ponce de Leon Retirement Center is scheduled for completion in October.

SILVER CITY AREA: KNC Inc. of Albuquerque was awarded a $1.2 million contract from the State Highway Dept. for overlay work in the Black-Smith Canyon area west of Silver City.

SOCORRO AREA: Technical Management Services Corporation (TAMSCO) is looking at the Magdalena area for possible location of a small electronics manufacturing plant. The plant under consideration could be in operation by 1987 with a workforce of between 30 and 60.

TAOS AREA: The area ski resorts, including Taos Ski Valley, Red River, and Angel Fire, are all expected to close for the season in mid-April, meaning the loss of several hundred jobs. Molycorp recalled about ten workers in March to cover a mine tailings site.

TUCUMCARI AREA: The 66 Packing Company reopened its meat packing operations in Tucumcari in late February, with a work force of about 10. The packing plant had remained closed for almost one year.

NEW MEXICO LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES 1/

	PRELIMINARY FEBRUARY 1986				REVISED JANUARY 1986				REVISED FEBRUARY 1985			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
STATEWIDE	654,894	594,843	60,051	9.2%	650,036	589,871	60,165	9.3%	634,214	576,392	57,822	9.1%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 2/	248,697	233,243	15,454	6.2%	246,223	229,984	16,239	6.6%	238,114	222,048	16,066	6.7%
LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	51,760	47,814	3,946	7.6%	51,382	47,336	4,046	7.9%	48,661	44,723	3,938	8.1%
SANTA FE MSA 4/	61,533	57,917	3,616	5.9%	61,378	57,760	3,618	5.9%	56,977	53,794	3,183	5.6%
Catron	940	723	217	23.1%	917	723	194	21.2%	952	710	242	25.4%
Chaves	22,994	20,512	2,482	10.8%	23,211	20,928	2,283	9.8%	22,617	20,921	1,696	7.5%
Cibola	8,294	6,485	1,809	21.8%	8,252	6,402	1,850	22.4%	8,641	6,591	2,050	23.7%
Colfax	6,706	5,782	924	13.8%	6,698	5,755	943	14.1%	6,549	5,748	801	12.2%
Curry	16,224	14,957	1,267	7.8%	16,220	14,917	1,303	8.0%	15,758	14,557	1,201	7.6%
De Baca	892	772	120	13.5%	891	756	135	15.2%	859	753	106	12.3%
Eddy	22,327	18,787	3,540	15.9%	21,950	18,811	3,139	14.3%	21,557	19,277	2,280	10.6%
Grant	9,442	8,175	1,267	13.4%	9,509	8,224	1,285	13.5%	10,057	8,492	1,565	15.6%
Guadalupe	1,603	1,304	299	18.7%	1,597	1,300	297	18.6%	1,457	1,279	178	12.2%
Harding	462	412	50	10.8%	453	400	53	11.7%	392	355	37	9.4%
Hidalgo	2,349	2,180	169	7.2%	2,307	2,131	176	7.6%	2,395	2,219	176	7.3%
Lea	26,317	24,323	1,994	7.6%	26,048	24,472	1,576	6.1%	26,666	25,142	1,524	5.7%
Lincoln	7,065	6,497	568	8.0%	7,193	6,633	560	7.8%	6,950	6,472	478	6.9%
Luna	5,314	4,416	898	16.9%	5,148	4,273	875	17.0%	5,448	4,551	897	16.5%
McKinley	17,125	14,786	2,339	13.7%	16,975	14,531	2,444	14.4%	17,004	14,828	2,176	12.8%
Mora	1,508	928	580	38.5%	1,488	957	531	35.7%	1,437	1,002	435	30.3%
Otero	17,062	15,578	1,484	8.7%	17,211	15,583	1,628	9.5%	16,837	15,315	1,522	9.0%
Quay	4,318	3,862	456	10.6%	4,265	3,815	450	10.6%	4,321	3,841	480	11.1%
Rio Arriba	13,394	10,326	3,068	22.9%	13,267	10,344	2,923	22.0%	13,497	10,515	2,982	22.1%
Roosevelt	6,882	6,464	418	6.1%	6,449	6,057	392	6.1%	7,096	6,740	356	5.0%
Sandoval	20,780	18,820	1,960	9.4%	21,139	19,087	2,052	9.7%	19,552	17,730	1,822	9.3%
San Juan	34,095	29,535	4,560	13.4%	34,123	29,596	4,527	13.3%	34,224	28,828	5,396	15.8%
San Miguel	9,999	8,569	1,430	14.3%	9,502	8,060	1,442	15.2%	9,853	8,370	1,483	15.1%
Sierra	2,303	2,120	183	7.9%	2,252	2,066	186	8.3%	2,159	1,946	213	9.9%
Socorro	5,580	5,052	528	9.5%	5,250	4,715	535	10.2%	5,422	4,935	487	9.0%
Taos	10,870	8,422	2,448	22.5%	10,917	8,513	2,404	22.0%	10,701	8,552	2,149	20.1%
Torrance	3,040	2,628	412	13.6%	3,106	2,670	436	14.0%	2,994	2,644	350	11.7%
Union	1,967	1,808	159	8.1%	1,933	1,781	152	7.9%	1,969	1,791	178	9.0%
Valencia	13,052	11,646	1,406	10.8%	12,782	11,291	1,491	11.7%	13,098	11,723	1,375	10.5%

1/ All estimates are made in strict accordance with methodology provided by the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

2/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Bernalillo County

3/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Dona Ana County

4/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Santa Fe and Los Alamos Counties